

Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee
State of Louisiana
<http://gohsep.la.gov/SIEC>

JOHN BEL EDWARDS
GOVERNOR



CHRIS GUILBEAUX
CHAIRMAN

MINUTES
April 26, 2017

The Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) met on Wednesday, April 26, 2017 at the Department of Public Safety Services, Office of Management and Finance Building, Third Floor South Central Training Room, located at 7979 Independence Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70806.

I. Call to Order

Chairman Chris Guilbeaux called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

II. Roll Call

The SIEC roll call was conducted by Travis Johnson, and a quorum was established.

The following SIEC members were present or absent as noted:

Committee Members Present	Representing Agency
Chris Guilbeaux	Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP)
Davis Dousay, designee for Neal Underwood	Division of Administration (DOA)
Chief Brian Zeringue	Louisiana Association of Chiefs of Police
Chief Robert Benoit	Louisiana Fire Chiefs Association
Brian Spillman, designee for Dick Gremillion	Regional Parish Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness Directors Committee
LTC Adam White	Dept. of Public Safety & Corrections, Public Safety Services (DPS)
Bill Vincent	Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO)
Brooke Campo, designee for Eric Miller	Louisiana Rural Ambulance Alliance
George Barlow Brown designee for Aaron Miller	Region 1
Billie Giroir	Region 2
Stacey Blanchard	Region 4
Richard McGuire	Region 5
Sonya Wiley-Gremillion	Region 6
Rodney Hart, designee for Lt Robert Seal	Region 9

Committee Members Absent	Representing Agency
Major Alan Dunn	Louisiana National Guard
Ricky Edwards	Louisiana Sheriffs Association
Conrad Baker	Region 3
Wes Edge	Region 7
Sean Christian	Region 8
Vacant	Governor's Office of Indian Affairs

III. Approval of Minutes

Sonya Wiley-Gremillion made a motion to approve the January 25, 2017 meeting minutes with corrections. Stacey Blanchard seconded. The SIEC voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the January 25, 2017 meeting as amended.

IV. Chairman's Report

Chairman Christopher Guilbeaux provided the following report.

- A. Motorola XTL/XTS line is reaching end of support. No parts or accessories will be manufactured after that date; existing stock will be sold until depleted. Factory repairs will be "best effort".
 - 1. XTS/XTL 5000 end of support is June 2018
 - 2. XTS/XTL 2500 end of support is June 2019

- B. Chairman Guilbeaux briefed the committee on recent LWIN Interoperability activities including: officer funerals in Jefferson and East Baton Rouge; multiagency SWAT operations in St. John; Mardi Gras statewide, including New Orleans, West Baton Rouge, Livonia, New Roads; Grand Gulf Nuclear Exercise (GulfWIN); mock fatality exercise in St. Charles Parish; Ponchatoula Strawberry Fest; Multiagency warrant sweeps in East Baton Rouge and Calcasieu; Air Show at Naval Air Station Belle Chase, among others.

- C. Chairman Guilbeaux introduced George Barlow Brown – New Orleans Communications/IT Chief, who made a presentation on the following topics:
 - 1. Orleans Parish New Communications Plan
 - 2. MOTO APX upgrade - XTS/XTL available
 - 3. New Orleans East Tornado lessons learned
 - 4. Orleans Parish TICP App Development
 - 5. Oschner flight group – Capt. Adam Brickeen, New Orleans EMS

A copy of Mr. Brown's presentation can be found on the SIEC website.

Chairman Guilbeaux and Christina Dayries discussed the possibility of updating the previous SIEC Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan (TICP) smartphone application under a new contract with the Division of Administration at no cost to the State. Christina will discuss with the Office of Technology Services to obtain contact details and notify the SIEC.

V. Statewide System Maintenance

Vernon McFadden with LSP Radio Communications provided the LWIN System Maintenance Report. A copy can be found on the SIEC website.

VI. Subcommittee Reports

A. Budget and Finance Subcommittee (BFSC)

Christina Dayries provided the following report on behalf of BFSC Chairman Ricky Edwards:

GOHSEP submitted a budget request for the second phase of the LWIN hardware and software upgrade totaling \$4.4 million, however, with the lack of available funding from the State budget, GOHSEP was only able to identify approximately \$1.2 - \$1.7 million dollars within its' existing recommended budget for the project. If the rest of the funds are not appropriated by the close of the legislative session, the partial appropriation would fund approximately 44 repeaters located at the PanAm and Bridge City LWIN sites.

B. Policy and Planning Subcommittee (PPSC)

PPSC Chairman Bill Vincent reported that the subcommittee would like to present a draft update to LWIN Policy 007, Network Coordination for the SIEC's review and approval. Chairman Vincent asked Travis Johnson to provide a summary of changes to the policy. Mr. Johnson went through updates to the policy centered on adding the GOHSEP Office of Interoperability back to the network coordination responsibilities alongside the LSP Radio Communications Section. Additionally, language was added to describe who is notified when LWIN statewide interoperability talkgroups are assigned, including: SIEC Chair, the three ESF-2 Lead agency representatives, SIEC regional representatives in the effected region, and the SIEC APCO representative in the event of large-scale operation covering multiple regions.

LTC Adam White made a motion to approve the draft update to Policy 007; Sony Wiley-Gremillion seconded the motion. The SIEC voted unanimously to approve the draft updates to Policy 007.

C. Technical Subcommittee (TSC)

TSC Chairman Billie Giroir provided the following report:

After review at the March 7th meeting, the TSC recommends the SIEC approve the following new LWIN sites contingent upon funding.

Logansport, Thibodeaux, and Zachary

Chief Zeringue motioned to approve the sites for construction pending the availability of funds. Rodney Hart seconded the motion. The SIEC approved the motion unanimously.

The TSC also discussed coverage problems in southern Lafourche, Terrebonne, and Jefferson Parishes since Fouchon tower moved. LSP Radio Communicators is going to look into again and going to come back with site suggestions and coverage maps

The TSC also reviewed coverage issues in Eunice, LSP Radio Communications will continue testing and discussing with the local responders.

Livingston Parish OHSEP tower is complete, the current Livingston Parish LWIN tower site will move to this new tower soon.

The TSC is still working to identify a location for the approved South Livingston LWIN tower site.

Juban Road Tower Update– Lease to be cancelled at Juban Crossing location that flooded. The tower will be installed at the original planned American Tower site.

The following potential coverage issues have been brought to the TSC's attention for review:

Church Point – LSP Radio communications is working to identify a new 800MHz frequency to use in a single-channel repeater to correct this coverage issue.

Franklin Parish – Will be sending a team to study issues and do coverage testing.

Lower Concordia Parish Coverage – A team was sent to this area and testing showed that the area did meet the stated goal of 95% on-street coverage. Sonya Wiley Gremillion asked LSP Radio

Communications to provide her with a copy of the results of their testing.

D. Broadband Subcommittee (BSC)

BSC Chairman LTC Adam White provided the following report.

James Waskom, Director of GOHSEP, was appointed as FirstNet SPOC by Governor John Bel Edwards to replace COL Edmonson who has retired.

There will be a meeting as soon as next month to discuss the potential Louisiana State Plan. In March, Federal Claims Court ruled against the Rivada Mercury protest which allowed FirstNet to move forward with the contract award to AT&T, so AT&T is expected to be in the meeting. .

The Broad terms of the agreement are:

- 25 year agreement
- FirstNet will provide 20 MHz of spectrum and success-based payments of \$6.5 billion over the next five years to help improve the network to our standards.
- AT&T will spend approximately \$40 billion over the life of the contract to build, deploy, operate and maintain the network, with a focus on ensuring robust coverage for public safety. The expectation is to alleviate issues such as the example given earlier in the meeting where there was no commercial cellular service after the crash at the Mardi Gras parade due to system overloading.
- AT&T will connect FirstNet users to the company's telecommunications network assets, valued at more than \$180 billion. This will allow FirstNet to begin with a very large infrastructure, and as such we expect to see immediate benefits once the plans are available.

Prior to the release of the Final State Plans Louisiana and all States will receive a Draft State Plan. We expect Draft State Plans to be posted in June. We will then have a chance to review and add our input. The release of the Final State Plans will start the 90 day timeframe for the Governor of each State to decide whether to "opt-in" or "opt-out" of the FirstNet network on behalf of all agencies within Louisiana.

LA FirstNet staff continues to provide outreach and information as we get new information from FirstNet.

VII. Old Business

There was no old business.

VIII. New Business

Julio Peck from LSP Radio Communications introduced Ken Born, Office of Emergency Communications (OEC) FEMA Region 6 coordinator.

Mr. Born advised the committee that the OEC was available to assist with communications planning and the Technical Assistance program. Mr. Born is currently working with the Louisiana Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC), Julio Peck, to bring more of these type of services to Louisiana.

Mr. Peck also briefed the committee that Louisiana State University (LSU) will be tearing down Kirby Smith Hall that currently houses microwave links for the Baton Rouge Simulcast site. LSP Radio Communications will be working with LSU to find a suitable replacement location for this equipment, possibly at the stadium.

IX. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

X. Adjournment

Chairman Guilbeaux announced the next SIEC meeting will be scheduled from July 26th, and would entertain a motion to adjourn.

Chief Zeringue made a motion to adjourn. Rodney Hart seconded the motion. The SIEC voted unanimously to adjourn.